



*Rep. DeMint at a press conference
on women's health.*

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE

**JIM
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REP. DEMINT CAN HELP YOU!

Representative DeMint's office cut through the bureaucracy to help 476 Upstate citizens solve their problems with the IRS, immigration, Social Security and veterans issues.

WASHINGTON UPDATE 1999

A REPORT FROM CONGRESSMAN JIM DeMINT



Dear Friend,

A lot has happened in Congress since I last visited with you.

We are giving our states more flexibility to provide our kids with the best education possible.

We are rebuilding the strength and respect of our military.

We are protecting Social Security for current retirees while moving towards giving future generations the option to control their own personal retirement account.

We are working to bring tax relief and tax fairness so you can keep more of your hard-earned money.

This newsletter, printed and mailed for less than the price of a stamp, will give you a detailed look at what we have done in Congress to secure the future for you and your family. There is a lot more to be done, and I am working hard to return dollars, decisions and freedom back to local individuals, families and communities.

In order to best address the challenges facing the Fourth District, I need your input. Please feel free to call my local offices or visit me on the Internet at **www.demint.house.gov** to pass on your views, get help to cut through bureaucratic red tape, or get more information on what I am doing for you. My staff and I are here to serve you.

Working together, we can continue the progress towards building a stronger, safer and more prosperous Upstate community.

Sincerely,


Jim DeMint



Rep. DeMint working hard for you.

REP. JIM DEMINT IS ...

- ★ **Freshman Class President**, working with the House leadership to advance legislation that reforms Social Security and gives our states the freedom from federal red tape so we can make real progress in our communities.
- ★ **Co-Chair of the Republican Conference Communications Task Force** where he is developing a pro-active and positive message that communicates our values and principles to all Americans.
- ★ **Chairman of the bi-partisan Citizen Legislator Caucus**, working with other members of Congress to encourage more leaders to serve in Washington for a time, then return home to their communities.
- ★ **On the Workforce Committee**, protecting employers and employees from excessive federal intrusion.
- ★ **On the Transportation Committee**, fighting to make sure South Carolina has safe roads, airports and buses.
- ★ **On the Education Committee**, making sure Washington returns more control and money to local schools, teachers and parents.
- ★ **On the Small Business Committee**, serving as Vice-Chair of the Empowerment Subcommittee where he is working to end burdensome regulations and taxes upon our small business owners.

SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE

... by returning dollars, decisions and freedoms back to local individuals, families and communities.

EDUCATION

We can secure the future for our children by making sure education decisions are controlled by local parents, teachers and communities.

As a member of the Education Committee, I believe we need to give our parents, teachers and local school boards the money and control they need to make sure every child receives the best education possible. That is why I am working with our state leaders to give local communities more freedom from federal regulations, while increasing local accountability to make sure no child is left behind. I am also a cosponsor of the "Dollars to the Classroom Act," which gives 95% of all federal education dollars back to our local educators to decide how to meet our children's educational needs.

"U.S. Rep. Jim DeMint of Greenville has been working behind

the scenes to get (education flexibility and accountability) through the Legislature this session."

— The State Newspaper, 5/5/99



At a town hall, Rep. Jim DeMint listens to students' concerns on school violence.

(Photo courtesy of The Greenville Journal.)

"On the Education Committee, (DeMint) has been working on legislation to hand power and control back to the states and districts."

— GSA Business Journal, 6/7/99

DeMint, other freshman GOP lawmakers seek to remove red tape from federal funds

—Greenville News, 6/30/99



SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE

We can secure the future for our seniors by making sure their Social Security and Medicare are guaranteed and that future generations have more control over their retirement and healthcare.

You deserve a secure retirement. That's why I voted to put 100% of Social Security in a special "lock box" to prevent Washington from raiding your retirement to pay for other government programs. A secure retirement system should guarantee benefits, protect retirement assets, give you more control over your money, and increase your personal wealth and freedom.



60 Plus Association President Jim Martin, left, and 60 Plus Honorary Chairman Roger Zion, right, hold up the pledge of Rep. Jim DeMint to protect 100% of the Social Security surplus.

DeMint Votes to Protect 100% of Social Security Money

FINANCIAL SECURITY AND TAXES

We can secure the future for every taxpayer by making sure our working families keep more of their hard-earned money.

Our families are working longer and harder to pay their federal tax bill. I am a cosponsor of several bills to eliminate the current tax code, repeal the death tax, and put an end to the marriage tax penalty. We need a fair tax code that rewards your hard work and sacrifice and allows all Americans the opportunity to achieve their dreams.

"Jim DeMint is co-sponsoring legislation to end the so-called 'marriage penalty' in the federal tax code. DeMint said Congress should give couples a break through tax code changes that would end the built-in penalty — in the form of higher taxes — paid by working couples."

— Greenville News, 2/14/99

STRONG NATIONAL DEFENSE

We can secure the future for every citizen by rebuilding the strength and respect of our military to keep America the guardian of democracy and freedom in the world.

Our military resources are depleted and under-manned by President Clinton's repeated use of our military as the world's police force. It is time for us to rebuild the strength and dignity of our military. I voted to build a missile defense system to protect America from a missile attack. I voted to cut the spending of other government programs but still protect Social Security in order to pay for these increases in national defense.

DeMint Votes To Build Missile Defense System



SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS

We can secure the future for every citizen by providing safe schools and neighborhoods through tougher enforcement of laws and stronger punishment of criminals.

REP. DEMINT VOTED TO:

- ★ Require mandatory life imprisonment for repeat child molesters.
- ★ Encourage states to keep dangerous predators behind bars by holding states accountable when they release convicted murderers, rapists and child molesters.
- ★ Make it unlawful to transport a minor across a state line in order to circumvent state law requiring parental or judicial involvement in a minor's abortion decision.

"Citizens of Union County should really thank Rep. Jim DeMint for getting things moving in Washington."
— Union Airport Commission Chairman

Rep. DeMint tackling issues that hit home
— GSA Business Journal, 6/7/99

"(DeMint) has hit the ground running in Washington..."
— Greenville Chamber of Commerce, April newsletter

"Rep. Jim DeMint has introduced a bill designed to give small businesses a leg up in a technology-oriented global economy."
— Greenville News, 7/11/99

REP. JIM DEMINT AUTHORED LEGISLATION TO ...

- ★ Grant new small businesses an additional tool to retain capital and succeed in the first few years of operation. **Start-Up Success Act of 1999** (HR 2373)
- ★ Ensure that the federal government is proactively and efficiently providing adoption counseling to trained counselors for women with unplanned pregnancies and infertile couples. **Adoption Awareness Act** (HR 2511)

DeMint Bill on Civil Rights Suits Passes

— The State Newspaper, 6/18/99

YOUR CONGRESSMAN ON THE JOB.

REP. JIM DEMINT COSPONSORED KEY LEGISLATION, SUCH AS THE:

- ★ **Academic Achievement for All Students Act** (Straight A's) which will, for the first time, give states the ability to use federal education funds with more flexibility, if the state can prove that all students meet high standards. This will give our state the freedom and funds to give every child the best education possible.
- ★ **Marriage Tax Elimination Act** (HR 6), a reform of the tax code so that a family's second salary is no longer taxed at a higher rate than if the couple were not married.
- ★ **Death Tax Elimination Act** (HR 8) which ends the practice of unfairly taxing a farmer or small business owner who passes their hard work and savings on to their children.
- ★ **Social Security Lock Box** (HR 1259) which protects 100% of Social Security and prevents politicians from spending your retirement on other government programs.
- ★ **Veterans and Small Business Development Act** (HR 1568) which honors veterans' contributions to our country, acknowledges the important role they can serve in the economy, and requires the Small Business Administration (SBA) to champion veterans efforts to access small business opportunities.
- ★ **AIR21 and Transportation Appropriations** (HR 1000/2084) which return your tax dollars home for airport safety improvements and new buses for Spartanburg and Greenville.

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